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04/07/05 14:37 ☐ :01/25 NO:904

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM	Application Number	09/986346-08/086334	RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER
	Filing Date	November 8, 2001	APR 07 2005
	First Named Inventor	Bowers, John L.	
	Art Unit	3753	
	Examiner Name	John A. Rivell	
Fax: 703-872-9306	Attorney Docket Number	54135US011	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 25			
Date: April 7, 2005	Attorney for Applicant: Karl G. Hanson		

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Transmittal	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Technology Center (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR § 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center	
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04/07/05 14:37 ☐ :02/25 NO:904

Docket No.: 54135US011

32692

Customer Number

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

First Named Inventor: Bowers, John L.
Application No.: 09/986346-08/022835 Group Art Unit: 3753
Filed: November 8, 2001 Examiner: John A. Rivell
Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/Supplemental IDS
- iv. ☐ Other

2. ☐ A Request for Extension of Time is being filed concurrently**3. Fees** (The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

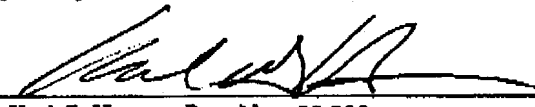
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- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Other

Respectfully submitted,

April 7, 2005

Date

By:


Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: (651) 736-3833


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703-872-9306

Date: April 7, 2005

Signature:


Printed Name: Susan M. Dacko

Docket No.: 54135US011

32692

Customer Number

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

First Named Inventor: Bowers, John L.

Application No.: 09/986346 08/686839

Group Art Unit: 3753

Filed: November 8, 2001

Examiner: John A. Rivell

Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

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- a. ☐ Previously submitted
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Deposit Account No. 13-3723. A duplicate copy of this letter for fees processing is enclosed.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Other

Respectfully submitted;

April 7, 2005

Date

By: 

Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900

Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: (651) 736-3833

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Date: April 7, 2005

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Printed Name: Susan M. Dacko

32692

Customer Number

Patent

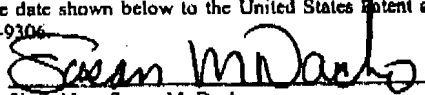
Case No.: 54135US011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: BOWERS, JOHN L.
Application No.: 09/986346 ^{08/32839} Group Art Unit: 3753
Filed: November 8, 2001 Examiner: John A. Rivell
Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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April 7, 2005 Date	 Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:


In accordance with the continuing duty of candor and good faith that is to be demonstrated before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, applicants submit copies of Answers in the civil litigation between the 3M Company and the 3M Innovative Properties Company ("3M") and Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. In both lawsuits, the defendants, Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. have filed Answers to the Complaints filed by 3M. In so doing, Moldex has filed counter-claims for a declaratory judgment of noninfringement and invalidity of U.S. Patent RE 37,974 to Bowers and U.S. Patent 6,843,248 to Japuntich et al. Moldex contends that each of these patents are invalid under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103. Moldex also asserts that both patents are invalid for "containing a specification and claims which do not meet one or more of the requirements of 35 USC § 112, i.e., written description, enablement, best mode, and definiteness."

The Louis M. Gerson Company also asserts that the claims of the '974 patent are invalid under 35 USC § 101, 35 USC § 112, and/or § 251 and under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103.

Please contact applicants' attorney if the Examiner desires more information regarding the defenses raised by each of the defendants.

Respectfully submitted,

April 7, 2005
Date

By: 
Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Page 1 of 1	Application Number	09/986946 09/100-337
	Filing Date	November 8, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Bowers, John L.
	Art Unit	3753
	Examiner Name	John A. Rivell
	Attorney Case Number	54135US011

U.S. Patent Documents					
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number (Kind Code if Known)			
	A1	US-			
	A2	US-			
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			

Foreign Patent Documents							
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
		Ctry. Code	Number-KindCode (if known)				
	B1						
	B2						
	B3						
	B4						
	B5						
	B6						
	B7						

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation (Check if yes)
	C1	Moldex's Answer to Second Amended Complaint and Counterclaims (3M Company and 3M Innovative Properties Company v. Moldex-Metric, Inc., Civil Action No. 03-5292 MJD/JGL, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C2	Louis M. Gerson Company, Inc.'s Answer and Counterclaims to Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint (3M Innovative Properties Company and 3M Company v. Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc., Civil No. 05-CV-28 (MJD/JGL), United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C3		

*Examiner:	Date Considered:
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	